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LUIGI BODIO.

At the twelfth session of the International Statistical Institute held in Paris in the summer of 1909, July 3-10, Luigi Bodio was unanimously elected to the presidency left vacant by the death of von Inama-Sternegg, November, 1908. Through his official and private publications, as well as through his active connection with the International Statistical Institute since its foundation in 1885, M. Bodio's reputation as a statistician and economist has become well established on both sides of the Atlantic. A brief review of his life and principal writings may be of interest at this time to American statisticians.

Luigi Bodio was born October 12, 1840, in Milan, where he completed his primary and secondary studies. His university studies were carried on at Pavia and at Pisa. After receiving the degree of doctor of laws from the University of Pisa in 1861, he was granted a traveling pension by the government to continue his studies in statistics and economics. About a year (1862-63) was spent in Paris where he came to know many men eminent in the field to which he had decided to devote himself. Among these was Emile Levasseur, for whom M. Bodio has since repeatedly expressed the greatest admiration and affection. He was at that time a professor at the Lycée St. Louis. In 1864, after his return to Italy, M. Bodio became Professor of Commercial Law and Political Economy in the Technical Institute at Leghorn and a little later went to Milan to occupy a similar position in the Technical Institute of that city. In 1868, he went to Venice to become Professor of Commercial Geography and Statistics in the High School of Commerce. The year 1872 marks his first official connection with the government statistics of Italy; in that year he was called to Rome to become Secretary of the Statistical Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, and was soon made chief of the bureau succeeding Pietro Maestri. In 1878, the bureau was raised to the grade of an office (*direzione generale*) and from that time until 1898 M. Bodio was the Director-General and, by virtue of his office, a member of the superior council of statistics and president of the permanent committee, which were established in 1887 in an effort to reorganize official statistics. On being chosen Councillor of State in 1898, he resigned his office of Director-General of Statistics although for three years he acted as Commissioner General of Emigration, being engaged in that capacity in important statistical work. M. Bodio's active connection with Italian official statistics did not cease with his resignation from the position of Director-General; he has ever since been president of the superior council of statistics. In 1909, he was retired from the active service of Councillor of State with the honorary title of President of Section.

As Director-General of Statistics M. Bodio raised Italian statistics, particularly statistics of population and emigration and crime to a high level. The numerous publications of the Statistical Bureau during this

period were prepared with the greatest care. Among these are the censuses of 1871 and 1881, the *Annali di statistica* and the *Annuario statistico Italiano*. As Director-General of Statistics M. Bodio has performed a great service in training a group of younger statisticians who have already proved their worth.

In founding the International Statistical Institute in 1885, he was one of the prime movers. He had previously written much on international statistics and had frequently urged the importance of forming an international association which should be independent of any government and which should choose its members, regardless of geographical distribution, from the greatest statisticians of the world. The occasion of the jubilee meeting of the Royal Statistical Society at London in 1885, seemed opportune to those interested in the project and the International Statistical Institute was formed with Sir Rawson Rawson as its president and M. Bodio as secretary-general. M. Bodio rendered his services in this capacity until 1905 when, to the great regret of the Institute, he felt it necessary to resign owing, as he said in a letter to President von Inama-Sternegg,* to the pressure of his duties in the Council of State and to the fact that he no longer had charge of a statistical office which he could use in the work of editing the bulletin and other publications. He was made Honorary Secretary-General and in the Paris session of 1909 was unanimously elected President. In 1893, at the time of the Chicago Exposition, the International Statistical Institute held its session at Chicago and M. Bodio took the opportunity to spend two months in this country.

Although he is now retired from active work in official statistics his services are still generously rendered to his country through his various connections with the government, and to the world at large through his activity in statistical or economic societies. At present he is President of the Council of Emigration, President of the Council of Statistics, Vice-president of the Geographical Society, Vice-president of the Dante Alighieri Society, and life senator (since 1900). He has been honored by elections to numerous scientific societies and has been the recipient of various decorations, among which may be enumerated: Member of the Royal Academy dei Lincei, corresponding member of the Institut de France (*Académie des sciences morales et politiques*), Grande croix de l'ordre italien des Saints Maurice et Lazare, Chevalier de l'ordre du mérite civil de Savoie, Commandeur de la Legion d'honneur (France), Grande croix de l'ordre de la Couronne Royale du Peuple, etc.

On account of his public duties M. Bodio has not had leisure for much writing outside of official publications and contributions to various periodicals, particularly the "Bulletin" of the International Statistical Institute. He has rather chosen to render his services to science by assisting other writers on statistical and economic subjects and by improving and extending official researches and publications. He has, however, written several valuable works, among which the most important are: "Saggio sul commercio esterno terrestre e marittimo del Regno d'Italia

* Bulletin de l'institut, vol. 15, part 2, p. 19.

negli anni 1862 ed 1863" (1865); "Sui documenti statistici del Regno d'Italia. Cenni bibliografici presentati al VI congresso internazionale di statistica" (1867); "L'Italia economica nel 1873, (written in collaboraion with various Italian economists and scientists. 2 vols., 2nd ed. 1874); and "Di alcuni indici misuratori del movimento economico in Italia" (Rev. 2nd ed. 1891).

After correspondence with the most extensive libraries in the East, it has been possible to secure of these four works only the "Di alcuni indici misuratori del movimento economico in Italia," and the two volumes of "L'Italia economica nel 1873." It has, consequently, been necessary to abandon the plan of giving a résumé of M. Bodio's most important works. It may, however, be of service to American readers to mention such of M. Bodio's works as may be found in Eastern libraries.

Library of Congress:

Del movimento della popolazione in Italia e in altri stati d'Europa. (Estratto dall' archivio di statistica.) 1876.

Di alcuni indici misuratori del movimento economico in Italia. (Rev. 2nd ed. 1891.)

Di una statistica sommaria delle opere pie esistendi in Italia nel 1878. (Estratto dall' archivio d'istatistica.) 1880.

Saggio di bibliografia statistica. (3 editions, 1883, 1885, 1890.)

Statistica dell' emigrazione Italiana all' estero nel 1881, confrontata con quella degli anni precedenti e coll' emigrazione avvenuta da altri stati. (1882.)

Cornell University Library:

Sulla condizioni dell' emigrazione Italiana. (1886.)

Sopra "il socialismo cristiano." (1885.)

Saggio di bibliografia statistica. (1885.)

Poor Relief in Italy. (A chapter of a book by Eminghaus, "Poor Relief in Various Parts of Europe.")

Boston Public Library:

L'Italia economica nel 1873. 2 vols. (1874.)

FREDERICK H. GILMAN.

Cornell University.